

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 14, and 15, which are independent, are amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification, specifically in paragraphs [0066] and [0069].

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. SUPPORT FOR THIS AMENDMENT

Citations to Figures and Specification locations are provided. However, such citations are provided merely as examples and are not intended to limit the interpretation of the claims or to evidence or create any estoppel.

As an example, support of the amendment can be found at paragraphs [0066] and [0069], which is reproduced as follows:

[0066] Further, the chassis **101** incorporates, for example, a microcomputer, having a system control block **110** for controlling operations of the apparatus as a whole, an input selector substrate **122** (hereinafter referred to as “input selector **122** ” simply) as

functional block 2 , a signal router (matrix switch) substrate 123 (hereinafter referred to as “signal router 123 ” simply) as functional block 3 , and a OSD circuit substrate 128 (hereinafter referred to as “OSD circuit 128 ” simply) as functional block 8 .

[0069] The control connector 120 *a* is connected to a later-described control bus 111 . The control I/F 120 *d* is connected to the control connector 120 *a* . As described later, the control I/F 120 *d* has storage means for storing correlations between common commands (global commands) related to one's own functional block and intra-functional-block commands (local commands) to control the functional section 120 *e* . It is to be noted that the common commands, sometimes referred to as a broadcast type command, are used to control simultaneous broadcasting control. “Simultaneous broadcasting control” means that one or plural recipients related to one command sent from a control command sender are controlled in response to that command.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-8 and 10-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,614,804 to McFadden et al. (hereinafter, merely “McFadden”) and in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0019717 to Kondo et al. (hereinafter, merely “Kondo”) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,754,719 to Nakatsugawa et al. (hereinafter, merely “Nakatsugawa”).

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over McFadden and in view of Kanda and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,345,185 to Yoon et al. (hereinafter, merely “Yoon”).

Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Nakatsugawa in view of Kondo.

Claims 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over McFadden and Kondo and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,434,432 to Hao et al. (hereinafter, merely “Hao”).

IV. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Claim 1 recites, inter alia:

“wherein the information-signal-processing apparatus further comprises a chassis that incorporates the plural functional blocks and the control block,

wherein the common command is a broadcast type command, and each common command is transmitted to each one of the plural functional blocks.” (emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully submit that McFadden, Nakatsugawa, Kondo, Yoon, and Hao, taken either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or render predictable the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, nothing is found in the references cited in the Office Action discloses or renders predictable **“wherein the information-signal-processing apparatus further comprises a chassis that incorporates the plural functional blocks and the control block,”** and **“wherein the common command is a broadcast type command, and each common command is transmitted to each one of the plural functional blocks,”** as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable.

Claims 14 and 15, which recite similar limitations with claim 1, are also patentable for similar reasons.

As nothing in the prior art cited in the Office Action cures the above-identified deficiencies, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

V. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. As nothing in the prior art cited in the Office Action cures the above-identified deficiencies, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections. As each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION


Because Applicants maintain that all claims are allowable for at least the reasons presented hereinabove, in the interests of brevity, this response does not comment on each and every comment made by the Examiner in the Office Action. This should not be taken as acquiescence of the substance of those comments, and Applicants reserve the right to address such comments.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any
overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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